

**CONUS MELVILLI SOWERBY, AND A NEW
SPECIES OF THE LAMELLARIIDAE**

BY LOUISE M. PERRY

In the spring of 1938 a small living *Conus* was dredged at six fathoms depth in the Gulf of Mexico about three miles off Little Carlos Pass, Lee County, Florida.

The small cone did not fall into the category of any one of the species established in this locality. Reference to the collections in the National Museum, the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences and the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge, revealed nothing with which it could be associated. Search of the literature and comparison of the new specimen with the description and illustration of *Conus melvilli* in the *Conchologia Iconica*, determined its identity as a juvenile shell of this species. It is believed to be the second, and only living individual of this species to be recorded, and is illustrated in Plate 8, fig. 1.

Sowerby's description of his cone quoted from the *Conchologia Iconica*, will serve equally well for the new specimen, save in point of size, as for the shell upon which the species is founded.

"*CONUS MELVILLI*, n. sp. (Received July 18, 1878.) C. testa abbreviato-subcylindracea, solida, obtuse angulata, laevi, antice crenulato-sulcata, griseo-albida, cinnamomeo-fusco longitudinaliter strigata, lineis fuscis undulatis transverse cineta; interstitiis lineis curvatis longitudinalibus hic illic irregulariter divis; spira obtusa, fusco strigata; anfractibus 7, convexis, laevibus; apertura modica, fauce castanea. Long. 20, maj. lat. 11 mill.

"Habitat: Key West (J. Cosmo Melvill).

"A small obtuse cone, with characteristic markings, somewhat resembling those of *C. lucidus* (Mawe), on a smaller scale; the transverse brown lines are more numerous, and the short longitudinal ones crossing the interstices less so. The light brown streaks almost cover the shell, leaving small white patches between the transverse lines.

"The shell described was picked up on the beach by Mr. Melvill at Key West (south of Florida) in 1872, and is at present the only specimen known of the species."

The new specimen has a longitude of 13 mm.; maximum width 6.5 mm.; length of body whorl 10 mm. The apex is obtuse,

the spire is sloping and consists of four whorls below the apex; the shoulder is rounded and the body whorl tapers to a width of 2 mm. at the base. The sutures are slightly canaliculate. The aperture is narrowest above and regularly increases in width to the base of the shell; the outer lip is thin and sharp. The ground color of the shell is bluish-white, the revolving chestnut colored striations are closely placed, very faint near the shoulder, becoming stronger over the expanded portion of the body whorl and developing into elevated threads over the narrowed basal portion. Light brown irregular markings are arranged in indefinite longitudinal bands, with the color much deeper about the sutures and near the base. Well within the aperture the interior of the shell is seen to be chestnut colored. The periostracum is pale brown, thin and papery. The operculum is typical of the genus.

MARSENINA GLOBOSA, new species. Pl. 8, fig. 2.

Shell thin, translucent, milky-white, with a shining, diaphanous periostracum. Apex minute, apical whorl very small and thin; two small whorls, the second rapidly enlarging into body whorl which comprises about four-fifths of the total altitude of the shell. The whorls are rounded, inflated and oblique; sutures deeply impressed; sculpture consists of fine incremental lines. The aperture is obliquely expanded downward to the right; the outer lip is thin, sharp and very fragile; the columella is incurved and deeply concave at the center. The interior of the shell is smooth, shining and iridescent and the sutural impressions and cavity of the spire are visible when the shell is viewed from the base.

Height from base of columella 14 mm.; height from base of expanded lip 15.5 mm.; width at posterior angle of aperture 9.75 mm.; greatest width of shell 14 mm.; diameter—greatest thickness of shell—9.25 mm.

The animal is oval and rounded, the tissues firm; the extreme anteroposterior measurement is 18 mm., extreme height 9 mm. The mantle is dull white with abundant opaque maculations; it is reflected over the shell, leaving exposed a circular area of about 4 mm. diameter. The snout is short and very mobile, the tentacles rounded and tapering, black eyes at outer side of base of tentacles. The foot is triangular, lengthened, with bluntly rounded angles.

The specimen upon which this species is based was taken by Jeanne S. Schwengel in Pine Island Sound, Lee County, Florida, in April, 1939.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

POLYDONTES OBLITERATUS (FÉRUSSAC)

BY H. A. PILSBRY

This handsome snail is still rare in collections, though it was defined in 1821 by Férussac's figures of specimens collected by Maugé. These specimens were probably in poor condition; the dark ground color as apparently "restored" by the artist is quite incorrect. The locality was given as Porto Rico. This erroneous habitat was repeated from one author to another up to 1901 (in Dall and Simpson's *Mollusca of Porto Rico*). However, Bland as early as 1876 gave notes on a dead specimen, white with no trace of brown bands, picked up in 1875 by Mr. V. P. Parkhurst in the immediate northern vicinity of Port au Prince, Haiti (Ann. Lye. N. H. of N. Y., 11: 148), and more recently (1887) H. Rolle found it at Jérémie, according to Crosse (*Journ. de Conch.* 1891, p. 51).

The fine specimen now illustrated (Pl. 8, fig. 5) was taken by Dr. S. H. Williams, Professor of Zoology, University of Pittsburgh, on Nouvelle Terain, at an elevation of 8000 feet, and was transmitted to me by Mr. C. B. Wurtz, one of his students. It measures, height 32, diam. 54 mm., with $4\frac{1}{2}$ whorls. The first $3\frac{1}{2}$ whorls are whitish gray, without markings. On the last whorl the very thin periostracum has a faintly buff tint, and is banded with cinnamon brown or somewhat lighter, the bands narrow and interrupted, three on the upper surface, about eight on the base. The embryonic shell, of nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ whorls, shows faint growth wrinkles and a fine, weak granulation. This granulation becomes stronger on subsequent whorls, but only weakly reaches to the last whorl, which has irregular retractive wrinkles but no granulation above except in places near the peripheral angle, above which there is a band of short but emphatic wrinkles. The base is granulate throughout. The columella has a low, convex lobe.